

The mission of **Jobs for Arkansas' Graduates (JAG)** is to assist students who need extra help to successfully graduate from high school - and either move into meaningful employment, postsecondary education, and/or the military.

**JAG** teams up educators and employers to provide selected secondary career and technical education students with academic and workplace skills. These efforts will lead them to a successful career and/or further education and training upon completion of high school.



**Jobs for Arkansas' Graduates** is affiliated with the national organization, **Jobs for**

**America's Graduates.** To keep this affiliation, states must adopt model program components and performance standards.

## ***JAG Performance Standards***

**Graduation rate:** Ninety percent of all JAG participants must graduate within one year of their high school graduation date.

**Positive outcome:** Upon graduation, eighty percent of all program participants must be engaged in work, postsecondary education or training, military service, or a combination of the above.

For more information about JAG, contact

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In your area, contact

Jobs for Arkansas' Graduates is funded through the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education.

The mission of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education is to provide leadership and contribute resources to serve the diverse and changing career and educational needs of the youth and adults of Arkansas.

# Jobs for Arkansas' Graduates



## ***JAG Program Elements***

- ◆ Employment competencies as identified by the local business community
- ◆ Employability skills/career preparation curriculum
- ◆ Help with overcoming social, academic, and other barriers that impact school success
- ◆ Ongoing tracking, research, and reporting of outcomes
- ◆ Intensive job development with JAG specialists
- ◆ A full twelve months of follow-up and support on the job after leaving high school
- ◆ Accountability of each specialist from JAG participants
- ◆ Integrated reading, math, service learning, and Internet activities in competencies

## ***Model Components***

- ◆ Oversight Board
- ◆ Program Management and Staff
- ◆ Student Selection
- ◆ Student Load
- ◆ Career Association
- ◆ Competency Attainment
- ◆ Employer Marketing and Job Development
- ◆ Follow-up services
- ◆ National Database Participation

## ***Model Applications***

- ◆ School-to-Career for JAG seniors
- ◆ Dropout prevention (multi-year, 11th and 12th grades)
- ◆ Dropout recovery

## ***CTSO Membership***

JAG encourages students to become members of career and technical student organizations at their school. These organizations allow students to show what they have learned through competitions at the local, state, regional, and national levels. Many of the competitive events promote development of leadership, communications, and teamwork skills. Arkansas is affiliated with several national career and technical student organizations:

**DECA** (an association of Marketing students)

**FFA** (an association of Agriculture students)

**Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America**

**Future Business Leaders of America/ Phi Beta Lambda**

**Health Occupations Students of America**

**SkillsUSA** (an association of Technical and Professional education students)

Beginning in the 1999-2000 school year, JAG was piloted in the following school districts:

**Arkansas School for the Blind/Little Rock**

**Bald Knob**

**Batesville**

**Mountain Home**

**Newport**

**North Central Career Center/Leslie**

**Pine Bluff**

**Springdale**

**Van Buren Alternative Schools**